

The Raritan Valley Arts Association Est. 1939

January 2001 Newsletter

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Snowflake Salutations!

.....and a very Happy New Year to all of you! 2001. Two thousand and one. I'm glad we had the 18" blizzard...in future years we need to be able to talk about the snows of the millennium--and the year of naught-one.

However, the roads are all clear to the Pluckemin Presbyterian Church, and you might want to come Monday, January 15, 7:30 pm to watch Diana Patton do watercolor demos on clayboard. A full member of the Garden State Watercolor Society, the New Jersey Water Color Society, Essex Watercolor Club, and the AAPL, Diana wants to clear up some misconceptions about clayboard and show you some new "tricks".

(Editor's note: since I am Diana, I'll take this out of the third person voice and just add that clayboard has been my new best friend for the past three years and it's a lot of fun. Good for so many subjects, the "tricks" I'll show you can be used on gesso-covered paper or board as well as on clayboard, and can be done in acrylic as well).

On Monday, February 19th we can look forward to a watercolor demo by Joan McKinney!

A hearty and happy thank you to Nona Rutter who did all the arrangements for our annual Holiday Dinner at McCarthy's Restaurant December 11th. The food, company, and ambiance could not have been better. We shared our paintings and we enjoyed a terrific "white elephant" grab bag of festively wrapped gifts. President Linda Arnold presented everyone with beautiful RVAA palette-adorned Christmas balls she made, Florence White donated a certificate for her handsome framing, Diana Patton read O.Henry's "The Gift of the Magi", and Ruth Wilson read Clement Moore's "The Night before Christmas". It was a warm and cozy evening for all.

"A Sweetheart of a Show", small (Valentine's Day gifts?) treasures is now at the (almost-finished) Somerset County Library through the end of January, with a possible extension. These miniatures are in the glass display cases in the (newly expanded) lobby. Larger works will be on the curved wall in February (as the main part of the library is not ready). Those artists

who signed up back in December and are in the present show are Gay Billich, Barbara Briden, Regina Defrancisco, Angela Fehrenbach, Elsa Herrmann, Colette Lemay, Diana Patton, Lib Ryman, and Rosemary Zangara. They are all Show sitting weekends, 9-5 Sat.;1-5 Sundays. 10% goes to the library.

If you are reading this over a fellow RVAA member's shoulder because you didn't receive this Newsletter, it means you haven't sent your dues to Doug Axmann, 16 Schoolhouse Lane, Somerville, NJ 08876. You still can... \$22. single, \$28. family, \$10. student (high school age or under).

Somerset Association, just off Rt. 202-206, on Burnt Mills Rd, Bedminster, is having their juried members' show, "Visual Image/Written Word" January 18th to March 3rd. You might want to check out how "painters and sculptors have been inspired by the written word."

#### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

ELSA HERRMANN, with Joan McKinney and Elyssa Prystauk, had an exhibit in the Bernardsville Library during the month of December. Elsa also had miniatures during December at Gallery I Main in High Bridge.

And now recalcitrant RVAAers, put pencil or pen to paper, and present YOUR news to me, so I can PASS it on. PLEASE.